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Appl. No. 10/668,916

Amdt. dated May 23, 2006

Reply to final office action of February 24, 2006

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This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of Claim 19 wherein said first location and said second location assigned said location reference codes grouped into said congestion event are contiguous along said road.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of Claim 19 wherein said first location and said second location grouped into said congestion event are located within a predetermined distance of one another.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of Claim 19 wherein said congestion event comprises a beginning location reference code and a number of following location reference codes.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of Claim 19 wherein said congestion event comprises a direction.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of Claim 19 wherein said congestion event comprises a beginning location reference code and a end location reference code.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of Claim 19 wherein said congestion event comprises a congestion speed value representative of the traffic speeds of the grouped ~~first location and second locations~~.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of Claim 19 wherein said congestion event comprises an average speed of the grouped ~~first location and second locations~~.

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Claim 9 (currently amended): The method of Claim 19 wherein said congestion event comprises a congestion event code representing a level of congestion corresponding to said traffic speeds.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method of Claim 19 further comprising obtaining data indicating an expected duration of said traffic speed at said first location and said second location.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method of Claim 10 wherein said congestion event comprises a duration indicating when said traffic speeds are expected to change.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method of Claim 19 further comprising transmitting said congestion event as a traffic message.

Claim 13 (canceled).

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Claim 14 (currently amended): A method for developing traffic messages comprising:

using a plurality of location reference codes assigned to a plurality of locations along a road;

obtaining data indicating traffic speed at said locations represented by said location reference codes;

comparing data indicating traffic speed at two of said locations;

if said compared traffic speeds differ by less than a predetermined value, aggregating said location reference codes representing said compared locations, wherein said aggregated location reference codes representing contiguous locations along said road;

comparing an average traffic speed of said two aggregated location reference codes to the traffic speed at a third location reference code;

if a difference between said average traffic speed and the traffic speed of said third location reference code is within said threshold value,

aggregating said third location reference code into said congestion event; and

creating a traffic message from said aggregated location reference codes.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method of Claim 14 wherein said congestion event comprises a beginning location reference code and a number of following location reference codes having said traffic speeds differing by less than said predetermined value.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The method of Claim 14 wherein said congestion event comprises a beginning location reference code and a end location reference code.

Claim 17 (original): The method of Claim 14 wherein said congestion event comprises a congestion speed value representative of said speeds of the aggregated location reference codes.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method of Claim 14 wherein said congestion event comprises a congestion event code representing a congestion level corresponding to said traffic speeds of said aggregated location reference codes.

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Claim 19 (original): A method for developing traffic messages comprising:
obtaining data indicating traffic speed at a first location, at a second location, and at a third location, said first, second and third locations are located along a road;
comparing the traffic speed of said first location to the traffic speed of said second location;
if a difference between the traffic speed of said first location and the traffic speed of said second location is within a threshold value,
grouping the first location and the second location into a congestion event;
comparing an average traffic speed of said first location and said second location to the traffic speed of said third location;
if a difference between said average traffic speed and the traffic speed of said third location is within said threshold value, and
grouping said third location into said congestion event.

Claim 20 (original): The method of Claim 19 wherein said congestion event comprises a congestion speed value representative of said speeds of said grouped locations.

Claim 21 (original): The method of Claim 19 wherein said congestion event comprises a congestion event code.

Claim 22 (original): The method of Claim 19 further comprising obtaining data indicating durations of said traffic speed at said first location, said second location and said third location; and said congestion event comprises a congestion duration indicating when said traffic speed of one of said grouped locations is expected to change.

Claim 23 (canceled).